

## IMAGING ELLIPSOMETRY

### Abstract of the Invention

5 An ellipsometer apparatus and method for use in providing an image of at least a portion of a sample includes an objective lens having a focal plane at which a sample plane of a sample is positioned. Linearly polarized light normal to the sample plane incident on the objective lens is provided, and the incident linearly polarized light is focused onto the sample. At least a portion of the focused incident 10 polarized light is reflected by the sample resulting in reflected light. Spatial filtering is used to modify at least a portion of the incident or the reflected light. An analyzer portion is operable to generate polarization information based on the reflected light.

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